Docket No.: HEI-011 PATENT

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

(Original) A vegetation block comprising a block main body formed out of
concrete; and an outer layer body constituted by forming, into a mat shape, a fiber aggregate
which is located on an outer surface of the block main body during the forming of the block
main body and which enables growth of a plant,

characterized in that the outer layer body is formed into a mat shape by inserting many needles into the stacked fiber aggregate from the upper side thereof and pressing the needles.

- 2. (Original) The vegetation block according to claim 1, characterized in that natural rubber is sprayed to the mat-shaped fiber aggregate.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The vegetation block according to claim 1-or 2, characterized in that the outer layer body is constituted by die-forming the mat-shaped fiber aggregate into a shape similar to that of the outer surface of the block main body.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The vegetation block according to claim 1-or 2, characterized in that the outer layer body is constituted by mixing thermoplastic polymer fibers in the fiber aggregate and then die-forming the mat-shaped fiber aggregate into a shape similar to that of the outer surface of the block main body while heating the same.

- 5. (Currently Amended) The vegetation block according to <u>claim 1 any one of claims 1</u> to 4, characterized in that the aggregates of uniform grain sizes are used as the aggregates of the concrete, and a porosity of the concrete is set to be 10 to 25%.
- 6. (Original) The vegetation block according to claim 5, characterized in that the aggregates of grain sizes classified within a sieve range of 10 nm to 25 nm are used as the aggregates.
- 7. (Currently Amended) The vegetation block according to <u>claim 1 any one of claims 1</u>
 to 6, characterized in that the fiber aggregate contains at least one of plant seeds, a fertilizer, and a water retainer.
- 8. (Original) The vegetation block according to claim 7, characterized in that paper pulp is used as the water retainer.
- 9. (Currently Amended) The vegetation block according to <u>claim 1 any one of claims 1</u>
 to 8, characterized in that vegetable fibers are used as fibers of the fiber aggregate.
- 10. (Currently Amended) The vegetation block according to <u>claim 1 any one of claims 1</u>
 to 9, characterized in that a reinforcing member is embedded in the block main body.

- 11. (Original) The vegetation block according to claim 10, characterized in that the reinforcing member is provided with a connection portion which outwardly projects from the block main body and which is connectable to the adjacent block main body.
- 12. (Original) The vegetation block according to claim 11, characterized in that the connection portion is formed into a ring shape.
- 13. (Original) An outer layer body for a vegetation block constituted by forming, into a mat shape, a fiber aggregate which is located on an outer surface of a block main body formed out of concrete during the forming of the block main body and which enables growth of a plant,

the outer layer body being formed into a mat shape by inserting many needles into the stacked fiber aggregate from the upper side thereof and pressing the needles, the matshaped fiber aggregate being die-formed into a shape similar to that of the outer surface of the block main body.

14. (Original) The outer layer body for the vegetation block according to claim 13, wherein the outer layer body is constituted by mixing thermoplastic polymer fibers in the fiber aggregate and then die-forming the mat-shaped fiber aggregate into a shape similar to that of the outer surface of the block main body while heating the same.

- 15. (Currently Amended) The outer layer body for the vegetation block according to claim 13—or—14, characterized in that natural rubber is sprayed to the mat-shaped fiber aggregate.
- 16. (Currently Amended) The outer layer body for the vegetation block according to claim 13 any one of claims 13 to 15, characterized in that the fiber aggregate contains at least one of plant seeds, a fertilizer, and a water retainer.
- 17. (Original) The outer layer body for the vegetation block according to claim 16, characterized in that paper pulp is used as the water retainer.
- 18. (Currently Amended) The outer layer body for the vegetation block according to claim 13 any one of claims 13 to 17, characterized in that vegetable fibers are used as fibers of the fiber aggregate.